

Remarks/Arguments

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, and 16-18 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,058,379 to Odom *et al.* (Odom). Claims 3, 9, and 15 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Odom *et al.*, as applied in claims 2, 8, and 14, in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,081,789 to Purcell (Purcell). Claims 1-18 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer and new claims 19-66 have herein been added and are fully supported by the specification. Applicants have revised the claims to further clarify Applicants' invention. No new matter has been added to the prosecution of this application. For at least the reasons stated below, Applicants assert that all claims are in condition for allowance.

A. 35 U.S.C. 102(e) Rejections

Claims 1-2, 4-8, 10-14, and 16-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Odom *et al.* Applicants respectfully oppose these rejections. Applicants have canceled claims 1-18 without prejudice or disclaimer and added new claims 19-66. Support for this amendment may be found, for example, as shown and described with reference to Figs. 5-7. Applicants assert that not every element of every claim, as amended, is taught by the reference. MPEP § 2131 provides:

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." *Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co.*, 868 F.2d 1226, 1236, 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989). The elements must be arranged as required by the claim...

The present invention generally provides for a system, computer program, and method for customizing a graphical user interface to a government system, including the following elements:

- an establishing mechanism that establishes an agreement between a buyer and a seller for trading purposes;

- a terms form receiving mechanism that receives a terms form indicating at least one of terms and conditions of the buyer;

- a checking mechanism that checks a credit of the buyer with a third party based on the terms form;

- a providing mechanism that provides the seller with the terms form and an indication as to available credit of the buyer;

- a response receiving mechanism that receives from the seller a response to the terms form and indication;

a forwarding mechanism that forwards a response of the seller to the buyer;

a documents receiving mechanism that receives initiation and payment documents utilizing a network;

a secondary documents receiving mechanism that receives secondary documents selected from the group consisting of an insurance certificate, inspection certificate, certificate of origin, invoice/declaration, counselor's invoice, sanction and boycott declaration, packing list, weight list, lab test report, and beneficiary certificate; and

a sending mechanism that sends the secondary documents to a bank to be checked, wherein the buyer accesses the secondary documents via the bank.

Because not every element of every added claim is taught by the reference, the Examiner's § 102 rejections are unsupported by the art and should be withdrawn. Independent claims 19, 35, and 51 recite each of the above-identified features. Odom does not appear to disclose a method, computer program, or system that functions in a manner as claimed by Applicants. Odom does not appear to disclose a method, computer program, or system that establishes an agreement between a buyer and a seller, receives a terms form indicating the terms of the agreement, checks a credit of the buyer, provides the seller with the terms and credit available to the buyer, receives and forward a seller response, receives initiation, payment, and secondary documents, and send the secondary documents to a bank to be checked as claimed. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claims 19, 35, and 51 are allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

B. 35 U.S.C. 103(a) Rejections

Claims 3, 9, and 15 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Odom in view of Purcell. Applicants respectfully oppose these rejections. MPEP 2143 provides in part, "To establish a prima facie case of obviousness...the prior art reference...must teach or suggest all the claim limitations." (emphasis added). Because the cited references alone or in combination fail to teach or suggest all of the claim limitations, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner's §103 rejections also be withdrawn.

Claims 3, 9, and 15 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 19-66, of which claims 19, 35, and 51 are independent, have been added as discussed above. Claims 20-34, 36-50, and 52-66 depend from at least one of independent claims 19, 35, and 51. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 20-34, 36-50, and 52-66 are also allowable for at least the foregoing reasons.

CONCLUSION

Serial No.: 09/470,041

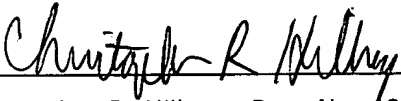
Title: Initiation of Bidding in a Virtual Trade
Financial Environment

In reply to Office action mailed: March 24, 2003

Page 10 of 10

Applicants submit that all pending claims are allowable and respectfully request that a Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. In the event a telephone conversation would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner may reach the undersigned at 612-607-7386. If any fees are due in connection with the filing of this paper, then the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees including fees for any extension of time, to Deposit Account No. 50-1901 (Reference 60021-339701).

Respectfully submitted,



Christopher R. Hilberg, Reg. No. 48,740
Customer No. 29838

OPPENHEIMER WOLFF & DONNELLY LLP
Plaza VII, Suite 3300
45 South Seventh Street
Phone: 612-607-7386
Fax: 612-607-7100
E-mail: CHilberg@Oppenheimer.com